

1 **WE CLAIM:**

1 1. A digital video recorder (DVR) for use with a monitor and a set top box (STB), the STB
2 for demodulating program data by tuning to at least one of a plurality of channels, the
3 STB comprising a DVR interface, the DVR comprising
4 (a) a local memory for storing the program data received from the STB;
5 (b) a STB interface for communicating with the STB over the DVR interface; and
6 (c) a DVR controller for:
7 communicating control data to direct the STB to tune to a selected channel; and
8 receiving a channel-change event from the STB in connection with the STB changing
9 the tuned channel.

1 2. The DVR as recited in claim 1, wherein the channel-change event is received by the DVR
2 after the STB changes the tuned channel.

1 3. The DVR as recited in claim 1, wherein the channel-change event is received by the DVR
2 when a user directs the STB to change the tuned channel and before the STB changes the
3 tuned channel.

1 4. The DVR as recited in claim 2, wherein the DVR transmits a control signal to the STB
2 authorizing the STB to change the tuned channel.

1 5. A Set Top Box (STB) for use with a monitor and a digital video recorder (DVR), the
2 DVR comprising a STB interface, the STB comprising:
3 (a) a tuner for demodulating program data by tuning to at least one of a plurality of
4 channels, wherein the program data is communicated to the DVR for recording;
5 (b) a DVR interface for communicating with the DVR over the STB interface; and
6 (c) a STB controller for:
7 receiving control data from the DVR for directing the STB to tune to a selected
8 channel; and
9 communicating a channel-change event to the DVR in connection with the STB
10 changing the tuned channel.

11 6. The STB as recited in claim 5, wherein the STB communicates the channel-change event
12 to the DVR after the STB changes the tuned channel.

13 7. The STB as recited in claim 5, wherein the STB communicates the channel-change event
14 to the DVR when a user directs the STB to change the tuned channel and before the STB
15 changes the tuned channel.

16 8. The STB as recited in claim 6, wherein the STB receives a control signal from the DVR
17 authorizing the STB to change the tuned channel.

1 9. A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium for use in a
2 digital video recorder (DVR), the DVR for use with a monitor and a set top box (STB),
3 the STB for demodulating program data by tuning to at least one of a plurality of
4 channels, the DVR comprising a local memory, the computer program comprising code
5 segments for:
6 (a) receiving the program data from the STB;
7 (b) storing the program data in the local memory;
8 (c) communicating control data to direct the STB to tune to a selected channel; and
9 (d) receiving a channel-change event from the STB in connection with the STB changing
the tuned channel.

1 10. A computer program embodied on a computer readable storage medium for use in a set
2 top box (STB), the STB for use with a monitor and a digital video recorder (DVR), the
3 computer program comprising code segments for:
4 (a) demodulating program data by tuning to at least one of a plurality of channels;
5 (b) communicating the program data to the DVR for recording;
6 (c) receiving control data from the DVR for directing the STB to tune to a selected
7 channel; and
8 (d) communicating a channel-change event to the DVR in connection with the STB
9 changing the tuned channel.

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